

Message Text

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PM/DCA:LBRECKON

ACDA/IR:MHUMPHREYS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

ALL NATO CAPITALS

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 077302

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETING APRIL 21-22

REFS: (A) USUN NATO 0607; (B) STATE 46897

1. RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH ALLIED OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH ARMS CONTROL MATTERS INDICATE THAT UPCOMING DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETING WILL COMMAND UNUSUALLY HIGH INTEREST. SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MOSCOW WILL SERVE AS ADDITIONAL STIMULUS TO DISCUSSIONS AT MEETING OF EXPERTS. ADDED TO THE INTEREST GENERATED BY CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IS THE GENERALLY GREATER AWARENESS OF THE IMPACT OF ARMS CONTROL ISSUES ON
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NATO SECURITY AS EXEMPLIFIED BY DANISH PROPOSALS AND US MISSION SUGGESTIONS (REF A).

2. THIS CONJUNCTION OF CIRCUMSTANCES SUGGESTS TO US THE POSSIBILITY OF UTILIZING THE APRIL DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETING AS AN OCCASION TO MEET ALLIED DESIRES FOR GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATO CONSULTATIONS ON ARMS CONTROL MATTERS. ONE WAY

OF DOING THIS WOULD BE TO UPGRADE EXPERTS MEETING BY RAISING LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION. TO THAT END WE ARE PREPARED TO NAME ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ACDA LEON SLOSS AS HEAD OF US DELEGATION. WE ALSO PLAN TO SEND DEPUTY US REPRESENTATIVE AT CCD TO EXPERTS MEETING TO SPEAK ON SEABED REVIEW CONFERENCE

AND ISSUES ON AGENDA WHICH HAVE BEEN COVERED AT SPRING CCD SESSION.

3. WE HAVE HAD INDICATIONS THAT NEWLY APPOINTED FRG AMBASSADOR FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS, FRED RUTH, IS THINKING OF ATTENDING APRIL 21 AND 22 NATO MEETING. PERENNIAL FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE MISTRAL HAS RECENTLY BEEN NAMED ACTING CHIEF OF SERVICE OF PACTS AND DISARMAMENT. THIS LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION BY FRG AND FRANCE, COUPLED WITH PRESENCE OF ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ACDA, COULD LEND MORE SIGNIFICANCE TO MEETING THAN HERETOFORE.

4. FOR US MISSION NATO. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN MISSION'S JUDGMENT WHETHER OTHER PARTICIPATING NATIONS WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO A MOVE TO UPGRADE PARTICIPATION INDISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETING. WE RECOGNIZE THAT SOME WILL BE UNABLE TO FIELD HIGHER LEVEL DELEGATIONS THAN IN THE PAST AND THAT IN SOME INSTANCES THEY ARE ALREADY AS HIGH AS THEY CAN GO. NEVERTHELESS, WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEIR VIEWS ON HOW TO MAKE THE DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETINGS MORE RESPONSIVE TO HEIGHTENED NATO INTERESTS. OUR DECISION ON WHETHER TO HAVE SLOSS HEAD US DELEGATION WILL DEPEND IN PART ON MISSION'S JUDGMENT WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE BY APRIL 8.
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5. FOR LONDON. WE WOULD BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN KNOWING LEVEL OF UK DELEGATION, IN VIEW OF LIKELY HIGHER LEVEL FRG AND FRENCH REPRESENTATION.

6. FOR ALL OTHER ADDRESSEES. YOU MAY AS YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE DISCUSS OUR VIEWS ON UPGRADING REPRESENTATION AT DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETING WITH RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS OF HOST GOVERNMENTS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISARMAMENT, ALLIANCE, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE077302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CCFLOWERREE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770121-0090
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770477/aaaacpbq.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: db2049a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USUN NEW YORK 607, 77 STATE 46897
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2866392
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETING APRIL 21-22
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: NATO BRUSSELS NATO POSTS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/db2049a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009